Action Potential #3
Sex and Gender in Research

ACTION POTENTIALS

Integrating sex and gender analysis into basic and clinical research strengthens not only individual projects, but also the translational pipeline and the value of science to the public. It is also increasingly required by funding agencies and publishers.[1] Advantages include:

- Transparent recording and reporting of sex and gender data improves experimental reproducibility and robustness of results
- Understanding the role of sex and gender in disease epidemiology can improve diagnosis and treatment
- Analyzing disaggregated sex and gender data can reveal opportunities for innovation

Selected online training resources:

National Institutes of Health (create account for access)
- Bench to Bedside: Integrating Sex and Gender to Improve Human Health (module on neurological disease)
- Sex as a Biological Variable (SABV): a Primer (4 modules) (SABV in Health of Women and Men, Experimental Design, Analyses, Research Reporting)

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (create account for access)
- Sex and Gender in Biomedical Research
- Sex and Gender in Primary Data Collection with Human Participants

Guidelines:

DFG - Relevance of Sex, Gender and Diversity in Research
DFG - Checklist for Applicants on Planning Research Projects
Horizon EU - Horizon Europe Gender Equality
Gender Policy Committee of European Association of Science Editors - SAGER Guidelines

Recommended reading:

1. Tannenbaum, C., Ellis, R.P., Eyssel, F., Zou, J., and Schiebinger, L. Sex and gender analysis improves science and engineering. Nature 575, 137–146 (2019).

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